**MUSICAL BIRTHDAY BASH**

On February 29th, the CSO will commemorate the births of Beethoven and Rossini. While we are celebrating the 250th anniversary of Beethoven’s birth all year, Rossini’s birthday is being celebrated for a quirky reason, according to Maestro William Intriligator:

“Befitting a composer whose sense of humor was legendary, Giacchino Rossini’s birthday is sort of funny. He was born on Leap Year Day, February 29, 1792. Since our concert will also be on leap year day, February 29, 2020, I couldn’t resist programming Rossini’s famous Barber of Seville Overture—well known from Bugs Bunny cartoons.”

The Barber of Seville or The Useless Precaution is an opera buffa, or comic opera, in two acts. While Rossini’s Barber has proven to be one of the greatest masterpieces of comedy within music, its premier in Rome was a disaster; the audience hissed and jeered throughout, and several on-stage accidents occurred.

In addition to using music from the Barber of Seville in The Rabbit of Seville, Warner Brothers used classical music in other cartoons. (Check out clips on Youtube to see Bugs Bunny as famous conductor Leopold Stokowski. Also, no cartoon aficionado can ever forget Elmer Fudd singing his version of *Ride of the Valkyries*, “Kill the Wabbit”.)

On a more serious note, concert-goers will be treated to a performance of Beethoven’s Seventh Symphony, which was composed in 1811, while he was staying in the Bohemian spa town of Teplitz in the hope of improving his poor health. The symphony premiered in Vienna in 1813, with Beethoven conducting.

A friend who was in attendance described his exuberant antics on the podium: “as a sforzando occurred, he tore his arms with a great vehemence asunder ... at the entrance of a forte he jumped in the air.” Despite this, or perhaps because of it, the piece was very well received. The audience even demanded that the second movement, Allegretto, be encored immediately. The instant popularity of the Allegretto resulted in its frequent performance separate from the complete symphony.

(continued pg. 2)
Intriligator’s description of the symphony is apt: “Sparkling, infectious rhythms infuse this symphony, and its four movements take us through many adventures. The finale can be heard as a military-tinged celebration dance, because Beethoven wrote this symphony after an important victory in the war with Napoleon.”

We have not been able to find an example of Beethoven’s music being used in a cartoon; however, it is a different situation with movies. Parts of the Seventh Symphony were used in such diverse movies as Frances (1982), The King’s Speech (2010), Mr. Holland’s Opus (1995), and X-Men: Apocalypse (2017)

The leap year concert will be enjoyable. Accept Maestro Intriligator’s invitation: “From the humor of Rossini to the lyrical passion of Tchaikovsky and the beautiful joy of Beethoven, this whole concert will make you feel so positive and great. Please join us.”

After the concert, join us in the Dinneen room at the Rib and Chop House to mingle with the Maestro, Guest Violinist Miriam Fried, and CSO Musicians. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

Miriam Fried’s performance of the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto, one of the best-known violin concertos in the classical repertoire, at the February concert will be memorable. Fried, a great favorite of CSO audiences, will be returning for her third appearance.

The violin concerto was composed in 1878, while Tchaikovsky was in Switzerland recovering from depression brought on by his short-lived, disastrous marriage.

The piece has a complex musical history:
Music is the unforgettable heartbeat of any film. On April 25th at 2:30 p.m., the iconic film, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, will be shown on the big screen at the Cheyenne Civic Center accompanied by the Cheyenne Symphony Orchestra playing the complete film score. The score calls for a very large orchestra, so the sound the orchestra will convey during the film will be “intense, powerful, and sweeping.” It will be a magical experience for families and movie buffs.

While other professional symphonies have presented concerts in which the orchestra provided accompaniment for a film, this is a first for Cheyenne. Combining film and live music is not without challenges as described by Intriligator:

“Getting the orchestra and the film to be perfectly in sync requires some special preparation from me and our symphony players. We will use a click-track to stay perfectly with the film, and I will use a score with special markings showing me where to line up special entrances and such. It’s all very exciting.”

Intriligator has high praise for the film score, which was composed by John Williams:

“The score is brilliant, full of great themes and ingenious effects. The musical score really conveys the emotions of the film. I feel that it is an honor to conduct a complete score written by John Williams (who just celebrated his 88th birthday, by the way). I’ve conducted pieces of his excerpted from his film scores in the past, yet I’ve never conducted an entire film score of his before this.”

*Raiders of the Lost Ark* is a 1981 American action adventure film directed by Steven Spielberg with George Lucas as executive producer. The film originated from Lucas’s desire to create a modern version of the serials of the 1930s and 1940s. It features Harrison Ford as Indiana Jones, an archeologist who battles a group of Nazis in search of the Ark of the Covenant. It was the highest grossing movie of 1981 and one of the highest grossing films ever made, when adjusted for inflation. It is often considered one of the greatest films ever made and was included in the Library of Congress’ National Film Registry as “culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant.”

The concert is sponsored by Spradley Barr Toyota. Bob Womack, CEO, shared some interesting insight about his appreciation of music:

“Music is truly the language of the soul and while I, myself, am not a musician, it has always been important to me. In fact, my grandfather played with the Chicago Symphony in the 1920’s so I was instilled with an appreciation of symphonies from an early age. We are so blessed to have such an extraordinarily talented orchestra and conductor right here in Cheyenne! We felt it was only fitting for Spradley Barr Toyota to team up with CSO to provide a completely unique experience for our community.”

This event is for kids as well as adults; the afternoon start time was selected to allow more families to come with their kids. Tickets are $12 for students and start at just $25 for adults. Please don’t miss this special event!
### CSO Staff
- William Intriligator, *Music Director & Conductor*
- Lindsey Bird Reynolds, *Executive Director*
- Christine Pelletier, *Director of Community Engagement*
- Christian Cherek, *Director of Marketing/Development*
- Jessica Albrecht, *Orchestra Manager/Administrative Asst.*

### Cheyenne Symphony Orchestra
- P.O. Box 851 • Cheyenne WY 82003
- 307.778.8561
- Newsletter: email@cheyennesymphony.org
- www.cheyennesymphony.org/symphony-
- www.facebook.com/CheyenneSymphony
- Orchestra/
- www.cheyennesymphony.org/symphony-
- friends/

### Symphony Friends
- Steve Schmerge, *President*
- Terry Ball
- Chuck & Julia Burke
- Denise Dijkstal
- Jim Dinneen
- Trudy Eisele
- Robert and Barbara Fecht
- Mick Finnegan
- Nick Fuerst
- Nikki & Jeff Garman
- Mary Guthrie
- Anna Marie Hales
- Betty Lewis
- Vic Liepk
- Kim Lovett
- Stephanie Martin
- Toma Nisbet
- Sharon Novick
- Jim & Phyllis O’Connor
- Kathy Muller Ogle
- Lucie Osborn
- Wendy Owen
- Natalie Rawlings
- Carolyn & Ann Ritschard
- Toni Rogers
- Barb & Bob Ruegge
- Betty Ann Shaffer
- Jerry & Pat Swan
- Ron & LaVelle Van Voast

### DID YOU KNOW?
Traditional IRA owners must take a Required Minimum Distribution starting at age 70½ or face tax penalties. You can use a directed donation to CSO, a 501(c)(3) organization, to meet all or part of your IRA’s required minimum distribution for the year.

### ROLL IN THE NEW TIMPANI

“From thunder effects to dying heartbeats and huge majestic finales, timpani drums are called upon to create a huge range of effects and emotions,” says Maestro Intriligator. CSO is excited to announce the purchase of a newly refurbished, top-of-the-line set of timpani from Michigan which will replace our aging set that has served us well for over a decade.

The set of Cleveland timpani, which is among one of the best brands of timpani in the world, consists of four kettle drums adorned with hand-hammered copper bowls. There are many pieces that call for timpanists to re-tune drums to different pitches throughout a piece, so the inclusion of fine tuners around the heads of the drums allows the timpanist to quickly and easily make adjustments. Each drum varies in sizes to produce different pitch ranges with the largest drum being 31” in diameter and the smallest drum being 23” in diameter. Cleveland timpani, “...come out of the tradition of legendary timpani playing in the Cleveland Orchestra”, and are a vital investment for the CSO as we continue to support the high caliber of artistry presented by the orchestra.

None of this could have been possible without a generous gift from longtime CSO supporters Ms. Myra Monfort and Dr. William Runyan, and hard work from CSO Board members and principal timpanist Derek Sawyer. Don’t miss hearing the debut of CSO’s new-to-us timpani at the Tchaikovsky & Beethoven concert on Saturday, February 29th. Principal timpanist, Derek Sawyer, will even provide a short demonstration of the new drums.

### MAHLER & BEETHOVEN

**MAR. 21 2020**

**7:30 PM**

**CIVIC CENTER**

**SPONSORED BY TACO JOHN’S AND FIRST STATE BANK OF CHEYENNE**

- Beethoven - *Egmont Overture*
- Mahler - *Songs of a Wayfarer*
- Mahler - “I am lost to the world”
- Beethoven - *Symphony No. 3, “Eroica”*

**FEATURING LEVI HERNANDEZ, BARITONE**